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The Picture of Dorian Gray Wiki Post #3

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**Summary:** In the next section of Dorian Gray, the painting that was once a beautiful admiration is now a hideous and haunting portrait of what it once was. Basil is in disbelief to the fact that the painting has changed and believes it is cursed. Basil says how much he misses painting the “old Dorian Gray” and how much he was so fond of working with him. Dorian believes that he is already cursed and it is too late to do anything about the painting. As soon as he looks at the painting, he feels a terrible hatred towards Basil, more hatred than he has ever felt for anyone in his entire life. He grabs a knife from the top of a chest and starts repeatedly stabbing Basil over and over again. He believed that the friend who had painted the fatal portrait to which all of his miseries had been due, had gone out of his life. However, he does not feel satisfied within the following morning when he realizes that he does not feel content or calm anymore. His hatred for Basil has returned to him. Dorian must find a way to get rid of Basil’s body. He does so by calling upon a friend, Alan Campbell, who is a scientist. He asks Campbell how to get rid of the body and Campbell is reluctant. After blackmailing Campbell with a terrible secret, he finally agrees to dispose of the body. Dorian is faced with a terrible encounter with Sibyl Vane’s brother at the opium dens. Dorian is held at gunpoint, but manages to convince Sibyl’s brother that he is not the man who once betrayed his sister. However, he discovers that he made a mistake and is on the hunt for Dorian Gray. The fact that he knows James is on the hunt for Dorian terrorizes him and causes him a great deal of stress. However, an unlucky encounter causes Dorian to shoot at what he thought were hares but it turns out he shot a man…that man is James Vayne. He looks at his portrait again and sees that the painting has not changed except for the eyes. He realizes that trying to be a good man will not make up for how awful his crimes have been. He throws a knife at the portrait and then the servants see the body of an old man below him with a knife through the chest. They identify the man as Dorian Gray.

**Analysis**: I really enjoyed this part of the story. It had an ending that I was not expecting at all which is good. I really thought it was interesting how you think something is going on but then realize at the end there is a completely different story that they don’t tell us. For example, I didn’t realize that the painting was representing Dorian Gray in actuality. The ending was fantastic; it was exciting, mysterious, and at times scary too. I now understand why this story is still popular because it has a good storyline the entire time. I never knew what to expect, so it added a lot of suspense to the plot.

**Application:** I noticed throughout the book there were a lot of parts that have applied to our course essential question. Some of the actions you see by people in Dorian Gray are actions we still see in modern times. For example, when Dorian Gray felt so much hatred towards Basil, he decided to kill him. Even though this action is immoral, you still see people today committing the same act because of hatred towards someone. I believe that some of the psychological problems that Dorian had been going through were good representations of how people are today when they believe that they have done something so awful that it eats away at them forever. These human characteristics were present at the time this story was written and when it was taking place to today’s society. I believe that everyone thought Dorian was this perfect looking prince charming who really was anything but. He felt a tremendous amount of pressure to be “prince charming” that he soon realized perfection is indeed in fact unattainable.